

Bible Training Institute

To proactively accelerate the spiritual growth of Grace Bible Church for the purpose of knowing God more intimately and becoming more effective servants of God in the world

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Applied Theology: Evangelism Part 1

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Introduction

PLAN:

- Session 1 = Getting the Gospel Right
- Session 2 = Pros and Cons of Evangelism Methods
- Session 3 = Starting the Conversation and Ideas for evangelism

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Key Concepts to Start

- Some believers more gifted than others
- Not a perfect method
- Guilt should never be the motivator
- Our duty is to proclaim the gospel, not coerce a decision
- Two key issues: the message and opportunity
- Organic vs. Organized- both/and

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Wrong Ways to Proclaim the Gospel

- Seeker-friendly false gospel
- Push for a decision--- the “sinner’s prayer”
- Obnoxiously in a way that turns someone off
- Not proclaiming the gospel at all
- Not factoring in discipleship when possible

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Getting the Gospel Right:

- Biblical Evangelism is God-Centered
- ...proclaims God’s Holiness (1 John 1:5)
 - ...details man’s sinful condition (Jer 17:9; Isaiah 64:6; Rom 3:10, 23)
 - ...declares Christ as Savior and Lord (2 Cor 5:21; 1 Cor 15:1 - 4)
 - ...calls sinners to repent and trust Christ (Isaiah 55:7; Luke 9:23; Acts 17:30; John 3:16 - 18)
 - ...proclaims God Himself as the great end and goal of the gospel

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Getting the Gospel Right:

Biblical Evangelism is Driven by Theology

- Beware of “repackaging” the gospel
- Evangelism is not method-driven (1 Cor 2:14)
- Since the unbeliever’s mind is blinded (2 Cor 4:4) the gospel is the only solution (2 Cor 4:5 - 6)
- Goal is not to reduce the gospel to the bare essentials. Goal is to be content-rich.

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Getting the Gospel Right:

Biblical Evangelism is Discipleship-Oriented

- Goal is not to engineer so-called decisions but to make disciples (Matt 28:18 - 20; Luke 9:23)
- Emphasizes the faithful following of Christ over and above an on-the-spot decision (Luke 14:26-33)

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Final Thoughts

- It takes hard work to be clear and understandable—this may take minutes to years in a discussion with a lost person.
- Don’t reduce the gospel to the smallest amount of information.
- ASSIGNMENT: Pray for lost family members and for opportunities...take and give away 3 - 25 GBC gospel tracts

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